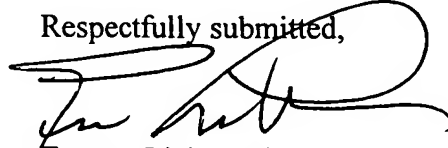


REMARKS

The prior application serial number 09/015,706 filed on January 30, 1998 has been allowed and the issue fee paid. This continuation application incorporates the entire disclosure of the prior application by reference.

Applicants respectfully request that this application proceed to prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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EXPRESS MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Washington, DC 20231 on February 1, 2002 with Express Mail Label No. EJ693836188US.



Date: Feb. 1, 2002

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